

# Alberta Population Report

March 26, 2009

Fourth Quarter, 2008

## POPULATION ESTIMATES

Alberta's population continued to have the highest fourth quarter (year over year) growth rate among all provinces, showing an increase from the 2007 fourth quarter. The fourth quarter of 2008 showed net inflows of people to Alberta from both interprovincial (6,198) and international (4,097) sources, and an influx of net non-permanent residents (4,870).

As of January 1, 2009, Alberta's population was estimated to be 3,632,483 (Table 1). This represents a year over year increase of approximately 91,251 persons (2.58%) since January 1, 2008. Although Alberta's population growth rate has slowed since 2006, it presently remains double the national rate of 1.21%.

TABLE 1: POPULATION & GROWTH RATES  
CANADA & ALBERTA

| Population |            |           | Yearly Growth Rate |        |         |
|------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|--------|---------|
| Jan 1      | Canada     | Alberta   | Jan 1              | Canada | Alberta |
| 2005       | 32,136,939 | 3,239,154 |                    |        |         |
| 2006       | 32,466,635 | 3,325,144 | 2006               | 1.03%  | 2.65%   |
| 2007       | 32,737,289 | 3,471,300 | 2007               | 0.83%  | 4.40%   |
| 2008       | 33,103,039 | 3,541,232 | 2008               | 1.12%  | 2.01%   |
| 2009       | 33,504,680 | 3,632,483 | 2009               | 1.21%  | 2.58%   |

Source: Statistics Canada

Population estimates for January 1, 2009 and growth rates (since January 1, 2008) for all provinces and territories are provided in Table 2. Across all provinces, Alberta had the highest growth rate, year over year, at 2.58%. British Columbia and Saskatchewan had the next highest growth rates of 1.70% and 1.50% respectively.

TABLE 2: POPULATION OF PROVINCES/TERRITORIES AS OF JANUARY 1, 2009 & GROWTH RATES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2008

|             | N.L.    | P.E.I.  | N.S.    | N.B.    | QUE.      | ONT.       | MAN.      | SASK.     | ALTA.     | B.C.      | Y.T.   | N.W.T. | N.V.T. |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Population  | 508,990 | 140,402 | 939,531 | 748,319 | 7,782,561 | 12,986,857 | 1,213,815 | 1,023,810 | 3,632,483 | 4,419,974 | 33,442 | 42,940 | 31,556 |
| Growth Rate | 0.24%   | 1.25%   | 0.25%   | 0.23%   | 0.86%     | 1.05%      | 1.11%     | 1.50%     | 2.58%     | 1.70%     | 2.10%  | -1.14% | 0.88%  |

Source: Statistics Canada

## MIGRATION

In the fourth quarter of 2008, Alberta had the largest interprovincial migration gain in Canada (Table 3). The province gained 6,198 people in interprovincial migration. This increase is significant when compared to the loss of net interprovincial migration observed in the fourth quarter of 2007. The interprovincial gain in the fourth quarter of 2008 was primarily attributed to the higher net inflow of migrants from Ontario (4,778) and Quebec (1,230). At the same time, there was a small net outflow of Albertans to British Columbia (304) and Manitoba (209). When compared to the fourth quarter of 2007, the net outflow of Albertans to Saskatchewan in the fourth quarter of 2008 (46) was substantially smaller to the net outflow of Albertans to Saskatchewan (1,050) in 2007.

Alberta's international migration remained strong in this quarter with a net inflow of 4,097 international migrants. However, there were fewer net non-permanent residents (4,870) in the fourth quarter of 2008 than in the third quarter (8,061). This represents 3,191 fewer non-permanent residents in Alberta in the fourth quarter than in the last quarter.

As shown in Table 4, over the past year, the top three provinces with the highest interprovincial migration gain in 2008 were Alberta (20,616), British Columbia (6,450), and Saskatchewan (5,559). This is a substantial increase in interprovincial migration from last year in Alberta (9,921).

## NATURAL INCREASE

In the fourth quarter of 2008, Alberta posted a natural increase (births minus deaths) of over 6,536 people. The province experienced 11,906 births and 5,370 deaths in the fourth quarter.

Demographic data are available from Alberta Finance and Enterprise - Economics and Statistics.

## SUMMARY STATISTICS FOR 2008

|                                            |           |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Population (Jan 1, 2008):                  | 3,541,232 |
| Births (Jan - Dec):                        | 48,014    |
| Deaths (Jan - Dec):                        | 20,889    |
| Net Interprovincial Migration (Jan - Dec): | 20,616    |
| Net International Migration (Jan - Dec):   | 19,650    |
| Net Non-Permanent Residents (Jan - Dec):   | 23,860    |
| Growth (Jan - Dec):                        | 91,251    |
| Population (Jan. 1, 2009):                 | 3,632,483 |

TABLE 3: ORIGIN & DESTINATION OF INTERPROVINCIAL MIGRANTS  
OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2008

| Origin           | Destination |        |      |      |      |       |       |       |       |       |      |      |      |
|------------------|-------------|--------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|
|                  | Nfld        | P.E.I. | N.S. | N.B. | QUE. | ONT.  | MAN.  | SASK. | AB.   | B.C.  | Y.T. | NWT. | NVT. |
| Nfld and Lab.    | 0           | 5      | 398  | 37   | 69   | 490   | 47    | 30    | 979   | 118   | 0    | 6    | 0    |
| Prince Edward I. | 37          | 0      | 163  | 97   | 16   | 354   | 0     | 0     | 205   | 174   | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Nova Scotia      | 275         | 101    | 0    | 473  | 145  | 956   | 42    | 24    | 1,149 | 482   | 17   | 48   | 6    |
| New Brunswick    | 68          | 88     | 433  | 0    | 396  | 493   | 38    | 47    | 560   | 165   | 0    | 18   | 0    |
| Quebec           | 57          | 90     | 190  | 339  | 0    | 3,535 | 126   | 108   | 1,742 | 641   | 5    | 0    | 22   |
| Ontario          | 852         | 123    | 1239 | 850  | 2742 | 0     | 1,171 | 1,301 | 7,487 | 3,170 | 71   | 55   | 37   |
| Manitoba         | 106         | 0      | 75   | 44   | 130  | 902   | 0     | 478   | 919   | 536   | 10   | 15   | 8    |
| Saskatchewan     | 20          | 0      | 44   | 40   | 136  | 380   | 406   | 0     | 1,871 | 797   | 13   | 4    | 0    |
| Alberta          | 847         | 71     | 803  | 541  | 512  | 2,709 | 1,128 | 1,917 | 0     | 5,113 | 117  | 180  | 16   |
| British Columbia | 148         | 49     | 417  | 141  | 519  | 2,693 | 402   | 667   | 4,809 | 0     | 56   | 54   | 0    |
| Yukon Territory  | 8           | 0      | 34   | 0    | 17   | 0     | 0     | 0     | 52    | 86    | 0    | 16   | 0    |
| Northwest Terr.  | 39          | 0      | 30   | 8    | 26   | 51    | 72    | 88    | 326   | 100   | 0    | 0    | 46   |
| Nunavut Terr.    | 14          | 16     | 0    | 0    | 8    | 18    | 40    | 0     | 53    | 26    | 0    | 52   | 0    |

  

|               | Nfld. | P.E.I. | N.S.  | N.B.  | QUE.   | ONT.   | MAN.  | SASK. | AB.    | B.C.   | Yukon | NWT. | NVT. |
|---------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|------|------|
| In Migration  | 2,471 | 543    | 3,826 | 2,570 | 4,716  | 12,581 | 3,472 | 4,660 | 20,152 | 11,408 | 289   | 448  | 135  |
| Out Migration | 2,179 | 1,046  | 3,718 | 2,306 | 6,855  | 19,098 | 3,223 | 3,711 | 13,954 | 9,955  | 213   | 786  | 227  |
| Net Migration | 292   | -503   | 108   | 264   | -2,139 | -6,517 | 249   | 949   | 6,198  | 1,453  | 76    | -338 | -92  |

Source: Statistics Canada

TABLE 4: NET INTERPROVINCIAL MIGRATION BY PROVINCE AND TERRITORY, 2008

| 2008    | NL.   | P.E.I. | N.S. | N.B. | QUE.    | ONT.    | MAN.   | SASK. | ALTA.  | B.C.  | Y.T. | N.W.T. | NVT. |
|---------|-------|--------|------|------|---------|---------|--------|-------|--------|-------|------|--------|------|
| Jan-Mar | -40   | -16    | 181  | -117 | -1,772  | -4,020  | -34    | 1,439 | 2,761  | 1,844 | 114  | -207   | -133 |
| Apr-Jun | 6     | 357    | -60  | -206 | -4,952  | -3,942  | -360   | 1,107 | 6,730  | 1,669 | 5    | -334   | -20  |
| Jul-Sep | 823   | 127    | -722 | -741 | -3,046  | -3,200  | -1,515 | 2,064 | 4,927  | 1,484 | 153  | -249   | -105 |
| Oct-Dec | 292   | -503   | 108  | 264  | -2,139  | -6,517  | 249    | 949   | 6,198  | 1,453 | 76   | -338   | -92  |
| Total   | 1,081 | -35    | -493 | -800 | -11,909 | -17,679 | -1,660 | 5,559 | 20,616 | 6,450 | 348  | -1,128 | -350 |

Source: Statistics Canada

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Information provided in this document is preliminary, and thus subject to change in future reports.

## Alberta Migration by Quarter

| Quarter      | Interprovincial Migration |               |                     | International Migration |              |                         |                     |                             | Total               | NPR*                        | Total+NPR                       |
|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
|              | In                        | Out           | Net Interprovincial | Immigrants              | Emigrants    | Net Temporary Emigrants | Returning Emigrants | Net International Migration | Total Net Migration | Net Non-Permanent Residents | Net Migration Including Net NPR |
| <b>2004</b>  |                           |               |                     |                         |              |                         |                     |                             |                     |                             |                                 |
| Jan-Mar      | 13,863                    | 10,671        | <b>3,192</b>        | 4,074                   | 1,016        | 508                     | 535                 | <b>3,085</b>                | <b>6,277</b>        | 521                         | <b>6,798</b>                    |
| Apr-Jun      | 17,688                    | 14,971        | <b>2,717</b>        | 4,605                   | 1,258        | 559                     | 927                 | <b>3,715</b>                | <b>6,432</b>        | 281                         | <b>6,713</b>                    |
| Jul-Sep      | 22,917                    | 14,138        | <b>8,779</b>        | 4,521                   | 1,969        | 747                     | 1,407               | <b>3,212</b>                | <b>11,991</b>       | 1,065                       | <b>13,056</b>                   |
| Oct-Dec      | 15,045                    | 8,856         | <b>6,189</b>        | 3,274                   | 963          | 513                     | 604                 | <b>2,402</b>                | <b>8,591</b>        | 312                         | <b>8,903</b>                    |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>69,513</b>             | <b>48,636</b> | <b>20,877</b>       | <b>16,474</b>           | <b>5,206</b> | <b>2,327</b>            | <b>3,473</b>        | <b>12,414</b>               | <b>33,291</b>       | <b>2,179</b>                | <b>35,470</b>                   |
| <b>2005</b>  |                           |               |                     |                         |              |                         |                     |                             |                     |                             |                                 |
| Jan-Mar      | 18,653                    | 10,363        | <b>8,290</b>        | 4,355                   | 931          | 505                     | 582                 | <b>3,501</b>                | <b>11,791</b>       | 488                         | <b>12,279</b>                   |
| Apr-Jun      | 25,803                    | 14,638        | <b>11,165</b>       | 5,291                   | 1,082        | 541                     | 1,068               | <b>4,736</b>                | <b>15,901</b>       | 761                         | <b>16,662</b>                   |
| Jul-Sep      | 25,027                    | 14,884        | <b>10,143</b>       | 5,591                   | 1,920        | 718                     | 1,280               | <b>4,233</b>                | <b>14,376</b>       | 1,621                       | <b>15,997</b>                   |
| Oct-Dec      | 20,824                    | 7,004         | <b>13,820</b>       | 4,168                   | 1,050        | 522                     | 496                 | <b>3,092</b>                | <b>16,912</b>       | 256                         | <b>17,168</b>                   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>90,307</b>             | <b>46,889</b> | <b>43,418</b>       | <b>19,405</b>           | <b>4,983</b> | <b>2,286</b>            | <b>3,426</b>        | <b>15,562</b>               | <b>58,980</b>       | <b>3,126</b>                | <b>62,106</b>                   |
| <b>2006</b>  |                           |               |                     |                         |              |                         |                     |                             |                     |                             |                                 |
| Jan-Mar      | 23,163                    | 10,843        | <b>12,320</b>       | 4,727                   | 1,033        | 519                     | 536                 | <b>3,711</b>                | <b>16,031</b>       | 1,546                       | <b>17,577</b>                   |
| Apr-Jun      | 22,820                    | 13,308        | <b>9,512</b>        | 5,445                   | 1,170        | 549                     | 885                 | <b>4,611</b>                | <b>14,123</b>       | 2,210                       | <b>16,333</b>                   |
| Jul-Sep      | 34,456                    | 17,727        | <b>16,729</b>       | 5,714                   | 1,861        | 733                     | 1,261               | <b>4,381</b>                | <b>21,110</b>       | 2,612                       | <b>23,722</b>                   |
| Oct-Dec      | 20,628                    | 12,950        | <b>7,678</b>        | 4,832                   | 992          | 525                     | 489                 | <b>3,804</b>                | <b>11,482</b>       | 1,145                       | <b>12,627</b>                   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>101,067</b>            | <b>54,828</b> | <b>46,239</b>       | <b>20,718</b>           | <b>5,056</b> | <b>2,326</b>            | <b>3,171</b>        | <b>16,507</b>               | <b>62,746</b>       | <b>7,513</b>                | <b>70,259</b>                   |
| <b>2007</b>  |                           |               |                     |                         |              |                         |                     |                             |                     |                             |                                 |
| Jan-Mar      | 18,625                    | 13,900        | <b>4,725</b>        | 4,015                   | 916          | 507                     | 508                 | <b>3,100</b>                | <b>7,825</b>        | 3,999                       | <b>11,824</b>                   |
| Apr-Jun      | 21,947                    | 17,270        | <b>4,677</b>        | 5,595                   | 1,067        | 543                     | 866                 | <b>4,851</b>                | <b>9,528</b>        | 5,783                       | <b>15,311</b>                   |
| Jul-Sep      | 31,491                    | 31,836        | <b>-345</b>         | 6,169                   | 2,044        | 727                     | 1,257               | <b>4,655</b>                | <b>4,310</b>        | 4,653                       | <b>8,963</b>                    |
| Oct-Dec      | 18,840                    | 17,976        | <b>864</b>          | 5,087                   | 1,074        | 519                     | 488                 | <b>3,982</b>                | <b>4,846</b>        | 2,308                       | <b>7,154</b>                    |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>90,903</b>             | <b>80,982</b> | <b>9,921</b>        | <b>20,866</b>           | <b>5,101</b> | <b>2,296</b>            | <b>3,119</b>        | <b>16,588</b>               | <b>26,509</b>       | <b>16,743</b>               | <b>43,252</b>                   |
| <b>2008</b>  |                           |               |                     |                         |              |                         |                     |                             |                     |                             |                                 |
| Jan-Mar      | 22,319                    | 19,558        | <b>2,761</b>        | 5,350                   | 1,055        | 516                     | 527                 | <b>4,306</b>                | <b>7,067</b>        | 3,830                       | <b>10,897</b>                   |
| Apr-Jun      | 29,230                    | 22,500        | <b>6,730</b>        | 7,200                   | 1,196        | 545                     | 881                 | <b>6,340</b>                | <b>13,070</b>       | 7,099                       | <b>20,169</b>                   |
| Jul-Sep      | 30,265                    | 25,338        | <b>4,927</b>        | 6,439                   | 2,062        | 727                     | 1,257               | <b>4,907</b>                | <b>9,834</b>        | 8,061                       | <b>17,895</b>                   |
| Oct-Dec      | 20,152                    | 13,954        | <b>6,198</b>        | 5,207                   | 1,079        | 519                     | 488                 | <b>4,097</b>                | <b>10,295</b>       | 4,870                       | <b>15,165</b>                   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>101,966</b>            | <b>81,350</b> | <b>20,616</b>       | <b>24,196</b>           | <b>5,392</b> | <b>2,307</b>            | <b>3,153</b>        | <b>19,650</b>               | <b>40,266</b>       | <b>23,860</b>               | <b>64,126</b>                   |

\* Estimates of non-permanent residents (NPRs) represent the number of non-permanent residents living in Canada. The five following groups are referred to as NPRs: (1) persons residing in Canada claiming refugee status; (2) persons residing in Canada who hold a study permit; (3) persons residing in Canada who hold a work permit; (4) persons residing in Canada who hold a Minister's permit; (5) all non-Canadian born dependants of persons claiming refugee status, or of persons holding study permits, work permits or Minister's permits and living in Canada.

Source: Statistics Canada

Prepared By: Alberta Finance and Enterprise, Economics & Statistics, March 26, 2009